

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed on April 17, 2007, and is intended to place the Application in condition for allowance. This Response is considered to be timely in view of the three (3) month shortened statutory period for response that was set forth in the Action.

Applicants make this Amendment without prejudice or disclaimer. In making this Amendment, Applicants have added no new matter. Support for the amendments above can be found in the specification and claims as filed. Claims 1-27, 30, 35, 39, and 40 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 28, 29, 31-34, 36-38, and 41 have been allowed, and are pending in the Application.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4-10, and 18-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,088,878 to Antonucci et al. Claims 1, 4-10, and 18-26 have been canceled, thus obviating the rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the Application is in condition for allowance.

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Application No. 10/759,593
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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the Application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit the issuance of a timely Notice of Allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to discuss any matter related to the Application.

No fees are believed due. However, should any fees be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17, which may be required during the entire pendency of this Application, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1196. A duplicate of this sheet is attached for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 7, 2007



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